



GAU/2815

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT

Application No.: 09/768,904

) Date: March 28, 2002

Applicant: Lap Wai Chow, et al.

) Examiner: Nguyen, Joseph H.

) Group Art Unit: 2815

Filed: January 24, 2001

) Our Ref: B-3964

) 618029-8/RPB/RAS/KST

For: "INTEGRATED CIRCUITS
PROTECTED AGAINST REVERSE
ENGINEERING AND METHOD FOR
FABRICATING THE SAME USING AN
APPARENT METAL CONTACT LINE
TERMINATING ON FIELD OXIDE"

) Re: **RESPONSE**

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper responds to the Office Action dated December 28, 2001. Please amend the application as indicated below. **All amendments and remarks herein are made without prejudice.**

IN THE DRAWINGS

Applicant encloses herewith a letter to the Official Draftsperson requesting approval for corrected Figures 1(a), 2, and 3 to overcome the Examiner's objection to the drawings.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the second paragraph on page 10 of the current specification with the replacement paragraph on page 2 of this response. Please replace the fourth paragraph on page 10 of the current specification with the replacement paragraph on page 3 of this response. A marked-up version of the replacement paragraphs showing the changes made is attached as Appendix A.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add new claims 17-20 as presented on page 4 of this response.

#7/A
4/16/02
V. Short

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800